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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,967	11/03/2003	Hciner Glombik	DEAV20010041USCNT	5028
5487	7590	01/26/2006	EXAMINER	
ROSS J. OEHLER AVENTIS PHARMACEUTICALS INC. ROUTE 202-206 MAIL CODE: D303A BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807				KRISHNAN, GANAPATHY
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		1623		
DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/699,967	GLOMBIK ET AL.	
	Examiner Ganapathy Krishnan	Art Unit 1623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 10-15 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 10-15 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

The Request for Continued Examination filed 12/15/2006 has been entered into the record. Claims 1-9, 16-17 and 19-21 have been cancelled. Claims 10, 12, 14 and 18 have been amended. Claims 10-15 and 18 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 10-11, 14-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 10 and 18 recite the terms lipid metabolism disorder and metabolic syndrome. It is not clear what all are encompassed by the said terms. The specification does not provide a clear definition either.

Claim 14 recites the terms arteriosclerotic manifestations. It is not clear what all are encompassed by the said terms. The specification does not provide a clear definition either.

Claims that depend from rejected base claims that are unclear/indefinite are also rendered unclear/indefinite and are rejected for the same reasons.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Frick et al (US 6221897) in combination with Castaner (Drugs of the Future, 2000, 25(7), 679-685).

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Fricke et al disclose benzothiepine 1,1-dioxide derivatives of formula I in which R¹ is butyl, ethyl; R² is OH; R³ is a saccharide residue; R⁴ and R⁵ are methyl and Z is –(C=O)-C₀-C₆-alkyl-NH- and compositions comprising these compounds (see col. 1, line 34 through col. 2, line 28; col. 23-25).

Fricke et al also teach the use of compounds of formula (I) and their derivatives in a method for the prophylaxis or treatment of hyperlipidemia, arteriosclerotic symptoms and lipid metabolism disorder (see cols. 23-26). However, Fricke et al do not teach a composition comprising the compound of formula (I) and a cholesterol absorption inhibitor chosen from ezetimibe or carbob pulp as the other active ingredient.

Castaner, drawn to hypolipidemic cholesterol absorption inhibitor, teach that ezetimibe is a potent cholesterol absorption inhibitor. It is very potent in inhibiting

increases in plasma cholesterol (page 682, right column, line 10 through page 683, left column, line 13; page 684, right column, see paragraph starting under subtitle-Clinical Studies).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have reasonably expected that combining the composition of Fricke et al and the composition of Castaner et al both known to be useful for the same purpose, would improve the therapeutic effects for treating the same diseases, and/or would produce additive therapeutic effects in treating the same.

It has been held that it is *prima facie* obvious to combine two compositions each of which is taught by the prior art to be useful for the same purpose in order to form a third composition that is to be used for the very same purpose. The idea of combining them flows logically from their having been taught individually in the prior art. See *In re Kerkhoven*, 205 USPQ 1069, CCPA 1980.

Thus the claimed invention as a whole is clearly *prima facie* obvious over the combined teachings of the prior art.

Conclusion

Claims 10-15 and 18 are rejected

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ganapathy Krishnan whose telephone number is 571-272-0654. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30am-5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shaojia A. Jiang can be reached on 571-272-0627. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GK

 1/20/06
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SAJ", is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the date "1/20/06" is handwritten in a smaller, slanted font.

Shaojia A. Jiang
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1623